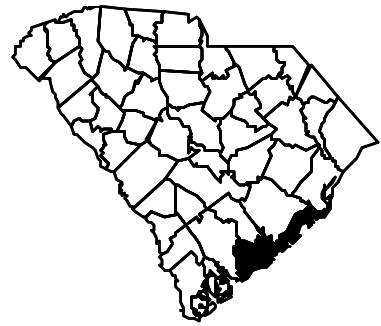


ASTHMA IN CHARLESTON COUNTY



Produced by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control for Asthma Awareness Month (May 2003)

Impact of Asthma in the United States

- U.S. asthma lifetime cases more than doubled from an estimated 6.7 million to 31.3 million between 1980 and 2001.
- Costs for asthma have almost tripled from an estimated \$6.2 billion in 1990, to over \$16 billion in 2001.
- Five million U.S. children are asthmatic, more than the entire population of South Carolina.
- 4,222 people died of asthma in 2001.
- In 2001, there were 155 asthma hospitalizations of children (<18 years) in Charleston County.
- Healthy People 2010 Objective for asthma hospitalizations among children under age 5 years is 25 per 10,000 children.
- Charleston County had a rate of 39 per 10,000 children under the age of 5 in 2001, compared to South Carolina's 65 per 10,000 children.

Asthma in South Carolina

- Annually about 264,000 South Carolinians suffer from asthma.
- In 2001, 1.2% (5,785) of ALL hospitalizations were for asthma.
- Asthma claimed the lives of 77 South Carolinians in 2001.

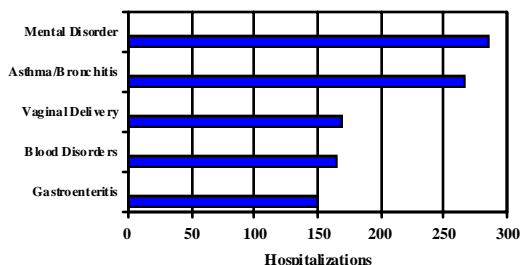
Impact of Asthma in Charleston County

- About 19,968 (6.4%) adults in Charleston County suffer annually from asthma.
- In 2001, there were 425 hospitalizations for asthma in Charleston County for all ages.

Children Suffer the Most from Asthma

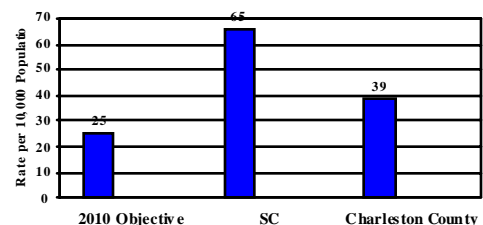
- Asthma/Bronchitis is the 2nd leading cause of hospitalization in Charleston County for children under the age of 18.

Leading Causes of Hospitalization in Children Aged 0-18, Charleston County, 2001



Data Source: Office of Research & Statistics

Comparison of Asthma Hospitalization Rates, Children Aged 0-5, Charleston County, 2001

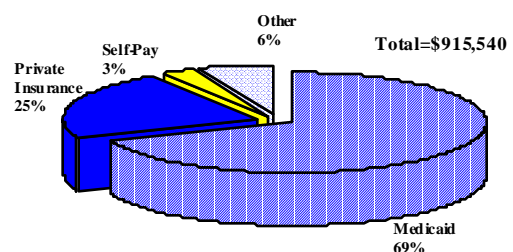


Data Source: Office of Research & Statistics

Cost of Asthma

- \$915,540 was charged in 2001 for hospital and ER visits in Charleston County for asthmatic children (<18 years).
- Medicaid covered nearly 69% of these charges.

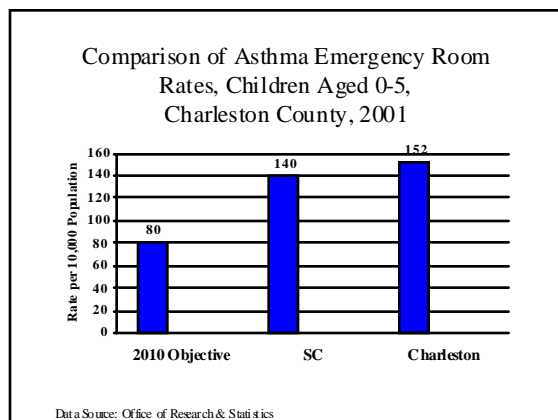
Percent Distribution of Asthma Related ER & Hospitalization Charges of Children Aged 0-18, Charleston County, 2001



Data Source: Office of Research & Statistics

Emergency Room

- 794 children under the age of 18 visited the ER due to asthma in Charleston County in 2001. This represents 35% of all ER visits due to asthma.
- \$356,140 was charged for ER visits in Charleston County for asthmatic children (< 18 years) in



2001.

- Healthy People 2010 Objective for asthma related ER visits among children under age 5 years old is 80 per 10,000 children.
- Charleston County had an ER rate of 152 per 10,000 children under the age of 5 in 2001, compared to South Carolina's 140 per 10,000 children.

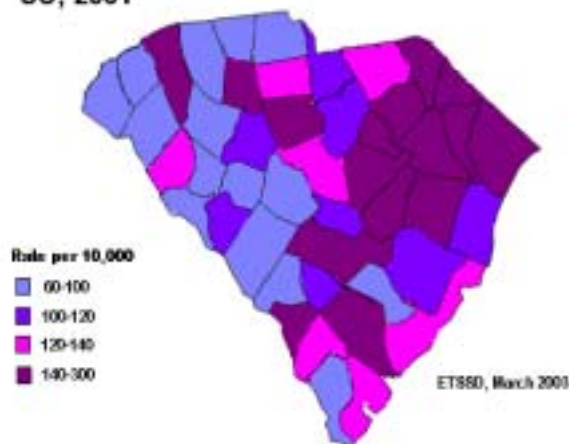


Disparities

- Non-white children under the age of 18 visit ER much more frequently than white children in the same age group.
- The hospitalization rate among non-white children is two to three times as often as white children.

Hospital and Emergency Room Rates per 10,000 Children (< 18 years), 2001				
	Charleston County		South Carolina	
	White	Non-white	White	Non-white
Hospital	10.9	30.2	19.2	41.5
ER	39.1	171.9	46.0	155.5

Asthma Related Hospital and ER Visits Rate for Children Younger than 18 SC, 2001



For more information on asthma contact:

SC DHEC Data Sources: Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System

Bureau of Epidemiology
(803) 545-4920

Vital Records

Division of Biostatistics
(803) 898-3649

Bureau of Air Quality

Outreach Section
(803) 898-4467

www.scdhec.net

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Hospital discharges and ER visits, contact:

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